

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15
STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01
/087 W

-----230917Z 081546 /22

R 221644Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4163

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, IT

SUBJECT: NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR STATISTICAL INFORMATION

REF: (A) STATE 85744 (B) MILAN 731

IN FURTHER RESPONSE TO REF (A) EMBASSY REPEATING REF (B)
WITH WHICH EMBASSY CONCURS

QUOTE:

MILAN 0731

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, IT

SUBJECT: NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR STATISTICAL INFORMATION

REF A) ROME 6250-B) STATE 085744

1. WE VISITED SECRETARY GENERAL OF ITALIAN SHOE ASSOCIATION
(ANCI) AND OBTAINED FOLLOWING INFORMATION PERTAINING TO
QUESTIONS CONTAINED IN REFTELS.

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A. SHOE INDUSTRY IS PRESENTLY SAID TO BE OPERATING AT
ABOUT 90 TO 92 PERCENT OF CAPACITY, SAME AS IN 1976.
ASSOCIATION SAYS THERE ARE NO RPT NO PLANS TO INCREASE
CAPACITY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

B. ASSOCIATION THUS FORESEES NO INVESTMENT FOR EITHER

EXPORT OR DOMESTIC MARKETS.

C. ASSOCIATION EXPECTS TOTAL EXPORTS TO REMAIN AT APPROXIMATELY PRESENT LEVELS OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS. AS FAR AS U.S. SPECIFICALLY IS CONCERNED, RETURNING EXPORTS AT PRESENT LEVELS IS BEST ITALIAN INDUSTRY CAN HOPE TO DO, ACCORDING TO ANCI. ASSOCIATION ADDED THAT EXPORTS TO U.S. MIGHT EVEN DECLINE BY TEN PERCENT PER YEAR.

2. COMMENT: GIVEN PRODUCTION AND EXPORT TRENDS OVER PAST THREE YEARS (BOTH ARE UP ABOUT FIFTY PERCENT OVER 1973), AND CURRENT HEAVY PLANT CAPACITY USAGE, IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THERE WILL BE NO INVESTMENT IN EW ITALY, THOUGH, ESPECIALLY WHEN PENALTIES FOR OVER-EXPANDING ARE GREAT IN TERMS OF HEAVY INTEREST PAYMENTS AND HAS BEEN INCREASED. HOWEVER, EVEN IF NEW INVESTMENT DID OCCUR, IT WOULD NOT LIKELY BE AIMED AT US MARKET. EXPORTS TO U.S. HAVE FALLEN IN RECENT YEARS AND EXPECTATIONS HERE ARE THAT TRENT WILL CONTINUE. ANCI CLAIMS TO BELIEVE THAT THIRD COUNTRY PRODUCERS (SPAIN, TAIWAN, KOREA, ETC.) HAVE STOLEN FOR GOOD MUCH OF WHAT WAS ONCE--FOR ITALIANS AT LEAST--INSATIABLE US MARKET. THUS, WHETHER ANCI'S HORIZONTAL LINE ESTIMATE FOR INVESTMENT PLANS IS RIGHT OR NOT, THERE IS GOOD POSSIBILITY THAT NO PRODUCTION INCREASES ARE BEING CONTEMPLATED AS FAR AS U.S. MARKET CONCERNED. END COMMENT.

UNQUOTE
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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